

present especially in the nematodes. It is also known that most of these peptides are borne on one gene in such a state that a plurality of peptides is contiguous (Nelson, L.S., et al., Molecular Brain Research, 58, 103-111, 1998).--

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, line 28, to page 3, line 9, with the following paragraph:

--Turning to the vertebrate animal, LPLRF (SEQ ID NO: 60) amide was isolated from the brain of chicken and identified to be an FMRF (SEQ ID NO: 59) amide-like peptide having the RF amide structure. However, its gene structure remains yet unknown (Dockray, G.J., et al., Nature, 305, 328-330, 1983). In fish, C-RFa was recently reported to be a peptide with the RF amide structure. As peptides containing the RF amide structure in mammal, there are known two peptides purified and isolated from bovine (Yang, H.-Y. T., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 82, 7757-7761, 1985) and neuropeptide SF (NSF) and neuropeptide AF (NAF) isolated from human cDNA, which are considered to correspond to the two peptides above. Recently, the present inventors identified prolactin-releasing peptides (PrRP) containing the RF amide structure in human, bovine and rats (Hinuma, S., et al., Nature, 393, 272-276, 1998).--

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 10-19, with the following paragraph:

--Various reports have been published on the physiological activities of the FMRF (SEQ ID NO: 59) amide peptides, which include, for example, acceleration or suppression of heartbeats, contraction or relaxation of various radular muscle, visceral muscle and retractor muscle, and hyperpolarization or depolarization of nerve cells. With respect to PrRP and LPLRF (SEQ ID NO: 60) amides, prolactin-releasing stimulation activity, and nerve cell-stimulating effects or hypertension effects are reported, respectively.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 26-35, with the following paragraph:

--In order to solve the foregoing problems, the present inventors have made extensive studies and as a result, succeeded in preparing primers based on the sequence information such as EST and cloning cDNA having a novel base sequence by RT-PCR using poly(A)⁺ RNA of human fetal brain as a template. The present inventors have thus

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B⁴ found that polypeptides encoded by the thus obtained cDNA are useful peptides in which the C terminal structure is LPL RF (SEQ ID NO: 60) amide-, LPL RS (SEQ ID NO: 61) amide-, LPQ RF (SEQ ID NO: 62) amide- or LPLRL (SEQ ID NO: 63) amide-like.--

✓ Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 24-27, with the following paragraph:

B⁵ --FIG. 1 shows the base sequence of DNA (SEQ ID NO: 2) encoding the polypeptide (SEQ ID NO: 1) (human type) of the present invention obtained in Example 2, and the amino acid sequence deduced from the base sequence.--

✓ Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 30-33, with the following paragraph:

B⁶ --FIG. 3 shows the base sequence of DNA (SEQ ID NO: 9) encoding the polypeptide (SEQ ID NO: 8) (human type) of the present invention obtained in Example 3, and the amino acid sequence deduced from the base sequence.--

✓ Please replace the paragraph at page 16, line 34, to page 17, line 2, with the following paragraph:

B⁷ --FIG. 4 shows the base sequence of DNA (SEQ ID NO: 15) encoding the polypeptide (SEQ ID NO: 14) (bovine type) of the present invention obtained in Example 4, and the amino acid sequence deduced from the base sequence.--

✓ Please replace the paragraph at page 17, lines 3-6, with the following paragraph:

B⁸ --FIG. 5 shows the base sequence of DNA (SEQ ID NO: 19) encoding the polypeptide (SEQ ID NO: 18) (rat type) of the present invention obtained in Example 5, and the amino acid sequence deduced from the base sequence.--

✓ Please replace the paragraph at page 17, lines 7-9, with the following paragraph:

B⁹ --FIG. 6 shows comparison of the amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NOS 8, 4, and 18, respectively in order of appearance) of the polypeptides of the present invention obtained in Examples 3, 4, and 5 --